



## Security Council

Distr.: General  
13 May 2005

Original: English

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### **Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004)**

#### **Note verbale dated 11 May 2005 from the Permanent Mission of Sri Lanka to the United Nations addressed to the Chairman of the Committee**

The Permanent Mission of Sri Lanka to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004), concerning measures for the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, and has the honour to acknowledge receipt of the Chairman's letters of 21 June 2004 and 7 March 2005.

Pursuant to paragraph 4 of resolution 1540 (2004), the Permanent Mission of Sri Lanka has the honour to forward herewith the first national report of Sri Lanka.



**Annex to the note verbale dated 11 May 2005 from the Permanent Mission of Sri Lanka to the United Nations addressed to the Chairman of the Committee**

**First national report of Sri Lanka to the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004)**

**Introduction**

Over the years, the world has witnessed an unabated spread of terrorism. Having itself being a victim of this scourge, Sri Lanka joins the international community to unequivocally condemn terrorism in all its forms and manifestations. In addition, Sri Lanka has actively been engaged in the negotiations of multilateral treaties in combating terrorism and is currently chairing the Ad hoc Committee established in pursuant to General Assembly Resolution 51/210 of 17 December 1996.

Sri Lanka is a party to ten out of twelve Conventions in the field of suppression of terrorism and will be signing the International Convention for the Suppression of the Acts of Nuclear Terrorism when it is open for signature on 14 September 2005.

Sri Lanka has continued to extend its fullest cooperation to the Counter Terrorism Committee of the United Nations and has submitted four national reports in pursuant to Security Council Resolution 1373 (2001). Domestic Legislation on the Suppression of Terrorist Financing has been enacted incorporating the provisions of the Convention of Terrorist Financing and the Security Council Resolution 1373 (2001). An act to combat money laundering is also in the final stages of preparation.

**Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD)**

Similarly, Sri Lanka recognizes that WMD poses a grave threat to international peace and security.

In this context, Sri Lanka supports all efforts for non-proliferation and disarmament of WMD in particular nuclear weapons. Sri Lanka is also cognizant of the increasing threat posed by the proliferation of biological, chemical and nuclear materials to non-State actors in particular terrorist groups. Therefore, Sri Lanka is of the view that there is an urgent and renewed need for international cooperation to strengthen the nuclear non-proliferation regime and to pursue in good faith negotiations on effective measures relating to nuclear disarmament.

Sri Lanka believes that multilateral treaties provide the basis to prevent proliferation and elimination of weapons of mass destruction.

In this context, Sri Lanka has become a party to several international treaties/conventions relating to the non-proliferation or elimination of biological, chemical and nuclear weapons, such as;

- i) Treaty of the Non proliferation of Nuclear Weapons
- ii) Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on their Destruction
- iii) Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production Stockpiling and use of Chemical Weapons and on their Destruction.
- iv) Convention on Nuclear Safety

Sri Lanka does not produce, manufacture, possess, import or re-export biological, chemical or nuclear weapons or any delivery system designed to carry weapons of mass destruction. Nor does it provide any State or non-State actors any material or technical support to develop, acquire, manufacture or transfer of know how of such weapons or delivery systems.

The Atomic Energy Authority of Sri Lanka, which was established in 1969 under the Atomic Energy Authority Act No.19 of 1969, is responsible for all activities related to peaceful applications of nuclear technology for the socio-economic development of the country.

Sri Lanka is in the process of drafting national legislation to implement the provisions of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production Stockpiling and the use of Chemical Weapons and on their Destruction. The Ministry of Industry functions as the National Authority for the purpose of the Chemical Weapons Convention under which a National Coordinating Committee has been set up.

The domestic legislation already in place in connection with the import, manufacture, transport and use of biological and chemical products includes National Environment Act No. 47 of 1980 and No. 56 of 1988, Control of Pesticides Act No. 33 of 1980, Import and Export Act No. 1 of 1969 and the Customs Ordinance.

The Ministry of Defense is responsible for authorizing and controlling all imports of weapons and munitions for military purposes.

Sri Lanka will continue to work with others within the available means, to prevent illicit trafficking in biological chemical and nuclear weapons and related materials including their delivery to non-State actors in particular terrorist groups.